PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

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(54) PRODUCTION OF MICROFOAM

(57)Abstract:
PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To obtain the subject foam capable of attaining a lighter weight and reducing a use amount while suppressing lowering of strength because of containing many dispersed fine air cells by impregnating a resin with liquid CO2 and foaming the resin.
SOLUTION: A resin is impregnated with liquid CO2 and the resin is foamed. The liquid CO2 is obtained by e.g. making internal pressure of the CO2 be 200kgf at 5°C or 200kgf at 25°C. Preferably, the resin has ≥0.5 dipole moment, such as polyethylene terephthalate. When a resin having ≥0.5 dipole moment is used, a saturate impregnating amount of CO2 can be ≥7% (at 25°C, under 200kgf) and a micro foam of ≤5μm cell size and ≥1×1010pieces/cm3 cell density can preferably be obtained. Preferably, the impregnation is performed by setting at a temperature and a pressure in which CO2 becomes to be a liquid state. The foaming may be performed by making the CO2-impregnated resin under a condition of a reduced pressure and/or heated state.

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